Navodaya Vidyalayas of at least 75% children from rural areas. Wide publicity is given through various media to apprise children of the scheme to attract the talented ones from rural areas.

[*Translation*]

Food Served on Board by Indian Airlines

*384. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: SHRI KARIA MUNDA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of food served on board by Indian Airlines is sub–standard;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have invited tenders on competitive basis in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to improve the quality of the food?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Contracts for food served on Indian Airlines flights are finalised only on the basis of rates obtained against tender enquiries and subsequent price negotiations, as considered necessary.

(d) The following steps are taken by Indian Airlines to ensure the quality of food:

(i) Pre–flight quality chekcs and periodical inspection of catering establishments are undertaken by qualified catering staff to ensure quality control;

(ii) Periodical inspection of caterers' establishment/units by medical officers of Indian Airlines is done to ensure maintenance of proper hygienic conditions in the areas where food is prepared, stored, preset and loaded;

(iii) Punitive action is taken against the caterers whenever deficiencies are noticed.

[*English*]

Singing of National Anthem in Delhi Schools

*385. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Administration has directed all its schools to sing National Anthem before the beginning of classes;

(b) whether this direction has been implemented by all the schools; and

(c) if not, the action proposed to be taken to have this direction implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information given by the Delhi Administration, no report regarding non–implementation of direction has been received by them.

(c) Does not arise.

Direct Railway Line Between Humnabad and Hyderabad

4059. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: